# Big Hole



#### **BIG HOLE WATERSHED COMMITTEE**

#### **BIG HOLE RIVER DROUGHT MANAGEMENT PLAN - VERSION 2015**

QUICK REFERENCE

#### **SECTION**

### FLOW TRIGGERS APRIL 1 - OCTOBER 31

## I: Saginaw Bridge on Skinner Meadows Road to North Fork Big Hole River Mouth

160 cfs - April 1 to June 30 target for Arctic grayling spawning.

60 cfs - Prepare for Conservation

40 cfs - Conservation

20 cfs - MFWP River Closure

Measured at USGS Wisdom Gage (06024450)

II: North Fork of Big Hole River confluence to Dickie Bridge

450 cfs - April 1 to June 30 target for Arctic grayling spawning.

170 cfs - Prepare for Conservation

140 cfs - Conservation

100 cfs - MFWP River Closure

Measured at USGS Big Hole River near Wise River Gage (06024580)

III: Dickie Bridge to MFWP Maiden Rock Fishing Access Site

250 cfs - Prepare for Conservation

200 cfs - Conservation

150 cfs - MFWP River Closure

Measured at USGS Maiden Rock Gage

(06025250)

IV: MFWP Maiden Rock to Notch Bottom Fishing Access Sites

250 cfs - Prepare for Conservation

200 cfs - Conservation

150 cfs - MFWP River Closure

Measured at USGS Glen Gage (06026210)

V: Notch Bottom FAS to confluence of Big Hole River with Jefferson River

200 cfs - Prepare for Conservation

150 cfs - Conservation

100 cfs - MFWP River Closure

Measured at USGS Big Hole River below Hamilton Ditch near Twin Bridges Gage

(06026420)

#### **TEMPERATURE TRIGGERS**

#### Step 1:

#### MFWP Hoot-Owl Fishing Restrictions:

Hoot-owl fishing restriction will be in place when daily maximum water temperature reaches or exceeds 73° F (23° C) for at least some period of time during three consecutive days. Hoot-owl fishing closure prohibits fishing between the hours of 2:00 p.m. and 12:00 a.m. (Midnight). They will remain in place until September 15 or until re-opening criteria are met.

#### Step 2:

### MFWP River Closure Due to High

Temperatures: River closure based on water temperature may be implemented if hoot-owl restrictions are inadequate to protect the fishery (e.g., prolonged period where water temperatures exceed 73° F and forecasts are not favorable for cooler temperature, thermal stress in fish observed by biologist, etc.). Closure will remain in place until September 15 or until re-opening criteria are met.

Sections temperature measured at:

I: USGS Wisdom Gage

II: USGS BHR near Wise River\*

III: USGS Maiden Rock\*

IV: USGS Glen Gage\*

V: USGS Hamilton Ditch Gage

MFWP Statewide River Restrictions and Closures

\* MFWP Thermographs are at site as second reference for triggers.